

FACT SHEET

DIRECT FINAL RULE AND ACCOMPANYING PROPOSAL AMENDING THE STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE FOR INDUSTRIAL-COMMERCIAL- INSTITUTIONAL STEAM GENERATING UNITS

ACTION

- ! On June 23, 2004, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) amended its rule requiring certain standards of performance for industrial-commercial-institutional boilers. The rule affects only the No. 2 power boiler located at the Weyerhaeuser Company facility in New Bern, North Carolina.
- ! The amendment sets a facility-specific nitrogen oxide (NO_x) emission standard for a steam generating unit which simultaneously burns fossil fuel and chemical by-product waste.
- ! EPA is publishing the direct final rule without prior proposal because the agency views the action as a noncontroversial amendment and does not anticipate adverse comments. However, if EPA receives significant adverse comments on the amendment, we will withdraw the action and carefully evaluate the comments before taking any final action.
- ! EPA will take public comment on today's proposal for 30 days after date of publication in the Federal Register.

BACKGROUND

- ! EPA issued new source performance standards (NSPS) limiting emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) from industrial-commercial-institutional steam generating units capable of combusting more than 100 million British thermal units (Btu) per hour on November 25, 1986.
- ! The NSPS allow for facility-specific NO_x standards for steam generating units which simultaneously combust fossil fuel and chemical by-product waste under certain conditions.
- ! The Weyerhaeuser Company submitted to EPA a petition for a facility-specific NO_x standard for the No. 2 power boiler at its kraft pulp mill in New Bern, North Carolina. The No. 2 power boiler combusts residual oil and a byproduct/waste gas from a piece of emissions control equipment known as a "foul condensate steam stripper." Weyerhaeuser installed the foul condensate steam stripper to comply with EPA's national requirements to reduce emissions of hazardous air pollutants.

- ! While the No. 2 power boiler complies with the NSPS while burning residual oil, when it burns stripper off-gas along with residual fuel oil, its NO_x emission rate is higher than NSPS limit.
- ! Based on a review of the Weyerhaeuser Company's petition for an alternative NO_x standard, EPA has determined that the petition is complete and that an alternative facility-specific standard is appropriate.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- ! To download the proposed standards and direct final rule from EPA's web site, go to "Recent Actions" at the following address: *<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg>*.
- ! The above website has information on when and how to comment on the proposal and direct final rule.
- ! For further information about the rule, contact Mr. James Eddinger at EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at 919-541-5426.